

Serial No. 10/657,722
Attorney Docket No. 2185.010USU (AUC-32822)

Amendment and Response After Final Rejection

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A compass assembly comprising:
a first member;
a second member pivotally connected to said first member at a common end, wherein said first member has an anchor point opposite said common end and said second member retains a marking device opposite said common end; and
a compressible cover being connected to said first member and positioned over said anchor point;
wherein the compressible cover is adapted to sheath the anchor point when said anchor point is not engaged with a surface.
2. (Original) The compass assembly as in claim 1, further comprising a gripping member positioned at said common end point.
3. (Original) The gripping member as in claim 2, wherein said gripping member has a textured or perforated surface.
4. (Original) The compass assembly as in claim 1, wherein said compressible cover is elastomeric.
5. (Original) The compass assembly as in claim 4, wherein said compressible cover is tubular.
6. (Original) The compass assembly as in claim 1, wherein said compressible cover is a bellows.
7. (Original) The compass assembly as in claim 1, wherein said compressible cover has slits.

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8. (Original) The compass assembly as in claim 1, wherein said compressible cover has a first end connected to said first member and a second end opposite said first end and extending beyond said anchor point in a neutral state.

9. (Previously presented) The compass assembly of claim 1, wherein said compressible cover compresses to expose said anchoring point when downward pressure is applied.

10. (Currently amended) A compass assembly comprising:
a first member;
a second member being pivotally connected to said first member;
a gripping member being connected to said first member and said second member; and
a compressible cover being positioned on said first member and around a pointed end of said first member;
wherein the compressible cover is adapted to sheath the anchor point when said anchor point is not engaged with a surface.

11. (Original) The compass assembly as in claim 10, wherein said first member connects with said second member at a common end point to make a movable joint.

12. (Currently amended) The compass assembly as in claim 10, wherein the pivotal connection comprises a gear mechanism. ~~said first member and said second member are connected by a gear mechanism.~~

13. (Original) The compass assembly as in claim 10, wherein said gripping member has a textured or perforated surface.

14. (Original) The compass assembly as in claim 10, wherein said compressible cover is elastomeric.

15. (Original) The compass assembly as in claim 14, wherein said compressible cover is a hollow tube.

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16. (Original) The compass assembly as in claim 15, wherein said compressible cover is pleated.

17. (Original) The compass assembly as in claim 15, wherein said compressible cover has vertical slits.

18. (Previously presented) The compass assembly as in claim 10, wherein said compressible cover has a first end connected to said first member and a second end opposite said first end and extending beyond said anchor point when no downward pressure is applied.

19. (Previously presented) The compass assembly of claim 10, wherein said compressible cover compresses to expose said anchor point when downward pressure is applied.

20. (Currently amended) A method of using a compass assembly comprising:
pivoting a first member relative to a second member, wherein said second member has a marking device connected thereon;
grasping a gripping member connected to said first member and said second member;
applying downward pressure on a compressible ~~member~~cover connected to said first member and adapted to sheath a pointed end of said first member in the absence of downward pressure ~~covering a pointed end of said first member so that said pointed end protrudes from said compressible member~~, thereby anchoring said compass assembly to a surface;
rotating said compass assembly so that the marking device describes an arc on the surface; and
lifting said compass assembly from the surface so that said compressible ~~member~~cover extends to a neutral position wherein said pointed end is covered.